

OFFICE OF THE TOWN PLANNER

TOWN OF BARRINGTON RHODE ISLAND

MEMORANDUM

TO: Town Council

FROM: Philip Hervey, Town Planner

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for February 1, 2010 Council Meeting

DATE: January 27, 2010

• <u>562/568 County Road.</u> The developer is still waiting on the availability of \$715,000 from the State Building Homes RI bond.

- Comprehensive Community Plan. On January 19, 2010, the State approved the amended Comprehensive Community Plan, as adopted by the Planning Board and Town Council on January 4, 2010. The Planning Board held a work session on January 19th to discuss with property owners the proposed rezonings to take place, to make the Zoning Map consistent with the new Future Land Use Map. The Board will continue its review of the rezonings at its meeting on 2/2/10.
- Zoning Ordinance Amendments / Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. The Town has received proposals from three firms to complete revisions to the Zoning Ordinance, as called for in the Comprehensive Plan, and to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan (required by FEMA). A \$9,500 FEMA grant awarded to the Town will cover the cost of the Hazard Mitigation Plan portion of the project. The proposals are being reviewed by my office as well as two Planning Board members; a recommendation will be forwarded to the Town Council for the March meeting.
- Bids: Following is the status of Bids / RFQ's administered by my office:
 - Peck Center-Town Hall Walkway Improvements The Town is in the process of re-bidding the project because of cost concerns. We will include additional alternates to allow the Town the option to reduce the scope of the project.
- Town Beach / Latham Park. Workshops are being held this week (week of January 25) to generate ideas from the public on a master plan for Latham Park (1/26) and a master plan and new beach bathhouse at Town Beach (1/27). Graham-Meus Architects, working with Gates Leighton Associates, is providing the design services for the project. The goal is to have a new Town Beach bathhouse operable by spring 2011. The Latham Park master plan will be completed this spring. About 20 people attended the Latham Park workshop (the Town Beach workshop had yet to be held as of the date of this report). Issues participants cited at the Latham Park workshop included park security, trash, maintenance of park equipment, and stabilization of the shoreline. Ideas for improvements included providing handicap-accessible walkways, adding benches in shaded areas, providing "natural play" areas, removing the basketball court, upgrading the playground equipment, and installing measures (for example, a jetty) that would help control the erosion and enhance access to the beach area.
- Energy Grant. The Town submitted a request for a \$12,000 Strategic Planning grant from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program. Approximately \$16,000 is available for this purpose. Additional grant money for energy improvements at Town facilities will be available in the coming months.